



## **AP<sup>®</sup> Psychology**

### **2011 Free-Response Questions**

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**2011 AP<sup>®</sup> PSYCHOLOGY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

**PSYCHOLOGY**

**SECTION II**

**Time—50 minutes**

**Percent of total score— $33\frac{1}{3}$**

**Directions:** You have 50 minutes to answer BOTH of the following questions. It is not enough to answer a question by merely listing facts. You should present a cogent argument based on your critical analysis of the questions posed, using appropriate psychological terminology.

1. A researcher designs a study to investigate the effect of feedback on perception of incomplete visual figures. Each participant stares at the center of a screen while the researcher briefly projects incomplete geometric figures one at a time at random positions on the screen. The participant's task is to identify each incomplete figure. One group of participants receives feedback on the accuracy of their responses. A second group does not. The researcher compares the mean number of figures correctly identified by the two groups.
  - A. Identify the independent and dependent variables in the study.
  - B. Identify the role of each of the following psychological terms in the context of the research.
    - Foveal vision
    - Feature detectors
    - Gestalt principle of closure
  - C. Describe how each of the following terms relates to the conclusions that can be drawn based on the research.
    - Random assignment
    - Statistical significance

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2. Savannah is a junior in high school and is preparing for an exam in her beginning Japanese course. The exam will consist of both written and spoken portions. Although it is her first course in Japanese, Savannah is confident that she will do very well on the exam.
- A. Describe how each of the following relates to Savannah's successful learning and performance.
- Broca's area
  - Use of phonemes
  - Modeling
  - Chunking
- B. Describe how each of the following may hinder Savannah as she prepares for and takes the exam.
- Encoding failure
  - Age and language acquisition
- C. After the exam, Savannah tells her family and friends that she believes that she spoke fluently and did extremely well on the exam. Describe how each of the following concepts may have influenced her opinion.
- Self-efficacy
  - Confirmation bias

**STOP**

**END OF EXAM**